



*...accelerating achievement in math, science and English*

## Early Signs of Progress

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of AdvanceKentucky is to replicate a proven model of teacher training and incentives that has been researched over a decade for its dramatic, positive impact on the number of high school students, particularly under-represented, low-income populations, who achieve scores on rigorous Advanced Placement math, science and English exams. The goal is student achievement on these exams at levels that demonstrate college-readiness and may garner college credit for these students.

The elements of the National Math & Science Initiative (NMSI) model that AdvanceKY is replicating are designed to be implemented concurrently in a coordinated manner. Participating schools commit to these elements of success and annual 'stretch' goals are set for each school and each AP teacher. The goal is dramatic growth in student achievement in rigorous math, science and English as measured by AP exams.

**PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:** AdvanceKY is operating in 12 schools currently and will announce 15 new schools in April. Together these 27 schools are located across the state involving five Congressional districts. New schools are added to the program each year so as new schools are announced in April, a new Request for Proposals will be released inviting schools to apply.

**EARLY IMPACT ON AP SCORES:** In conjunction with introducing these integrated elements of success during the program application/site visit process, the 12 Cohort 1 schools' AP math, science and English students contributed 10% of the approximately 1,000 'new' qualifying scores statewide on 2008 AP exams in ALL subjects; yet these 12 schools represented only 5.5% of Kentucky schools reporting AP scores.

**ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS:** Schools currently in the program have already grown enrollments by 40% and are in the process of projecting enrollments for the 09/10 school year. While still compiling data from all Cohort I schools, new year growth projections so far are ranging from 50% to 300%. Cohort 1 is projecting the addition of 15 new AP courses and the new schools are planning 26 new AP courses next school year. These early signs demonstrate a culture of high expectations for participation and success in rigorous math, science and English courses.

**TEACHER TRAINING:** Content-rich professional development is a core feature of the model. Nearly 70 teachers attended 2008 AP summer institutes, 100 have attended two-day training in 2009, and teachers from all 27 schools will participate in summer professional development either for new or experienced AP teachers and for pre-AP teachers.

**FUNDING PARTNERS:** Through a national competition, AdvanceKY (an initiative of Kentucky Science & Technology Corporation) was selected by the National Math Science Initiative as one of six non-profits to scale-up its teacher training and incentive model to other states. Since then, two other grants have been awarded to help AdvanceKY continue expanding to more schools. This includes a major grant to Kentucky Department of Education from the US Department of Education AP Incentive Program and a grant from ARC to KSTC.

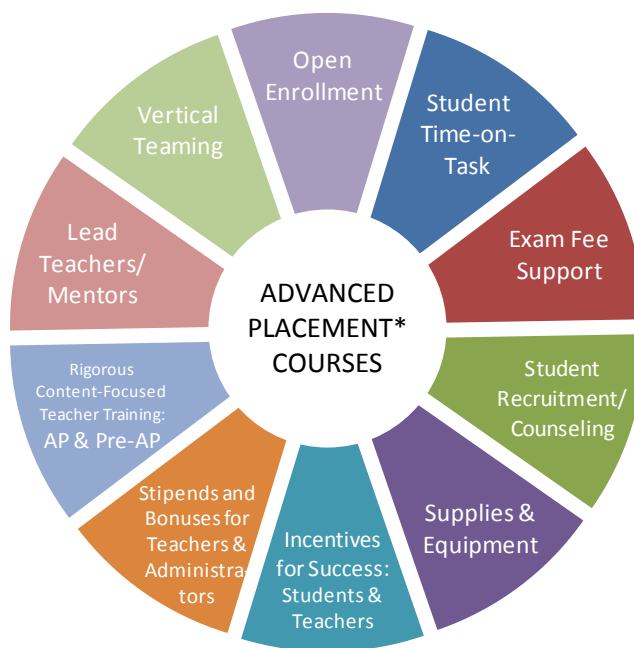
## Elements of Success

### FOR STUDENTS (annually)

- ▶ **AP<sup>†</sup> Courses in MSE:** AP college-level courses in math, science and English\*\* (MSE).
- ▶ **Open Enrollments:** A culture of inclusiveness and preparation for more students to enroll in and be successful in AP classes.
- ▶ **Student Time-on-Task:** Tutoring, 18 hrs of exam prep sessions for each AP course and other supports available to students.
- ▶ **Exam Fees:** Supplements to help cover 50% of AP exam fees not provided from other sources.
- ▶ **Incentives:** \$100 per Qualifying Score (3, 4, or 5) on AP exams in MSE.
- ▶ **Counseling/Recruiting:** Supportive information (especially in the early grades) to help with student/family decisions to prepare for and enroll in AP.

### FOR TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND SCHOOLS (annually)

- ▶ **Lead Teachers:** Master AP teachers mentor colleagues, guide vertical teams in their relevant subject matter on a path to academic achievement for AP students, conduct exam prep session for students, and more. (\$1,500 stipend per school served and \$500 stipend for each 6-hr student Prep Session delivered.)
- ▶ **Training:** for all AP & up to 6 Pre-AP teachers (at least one in each subject), 5-day summer institutes & other training during the academic year (for first two years and then every third year).
- ▶ **Vertical Teaming:** four meetings where high school and middle school teachers collaborate in the preparation of students for success in AP classes.
- ▶ **Stipend & Incentives for AP Teachers:** \$500 stipend to support additional responsibilities in extra training and teaching AP and \$100 per qualifying score achieved by students in their eligible AP classes.
- ▶ **Threshold Bonuses:** Achieving pre-set targets for Qualifying Scores (by class and by school) triggers bonuses for AP teachers of \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000 and \$3,000 for the designated school administrator if school-wide goal is met.
- ▶ **Equipment & Supplies:** up to \$5,000 for equipment and \$25 per student enrolled in eligible AP classes (1:1 school matching required).
- ▶ **Access to National NMSI and State AdvanceKY Networks**



[nationalmathandscience.org](http://nationalmathandscience.org)

[advanceky.com](http://advanceky.com)

<sup>†</sup>Calculus AB/BC, Computer Science A, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics B, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics, English Language and English Literature.

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